Figure 1: Inquiry-based learning in Legal Studies

New learning

DEFINE
Establish, refine, frame the inquiry-based investigation by determining:
- What is the legal issue to be investigated?
- What are the underpinning facts, law, concepts and processes of the inquiry?

INVESTIGATE
Conduct research to determine:
- What are the primary and/or secondary sources of legal information?
- Is the information complete, relevant and accurate?
- What information will be selected and how will it be organised?

ANALYSE/APPLY
Dissect to ascertain and examine constituent parts and make meaning of relationships through determining:
- How is the current law applied?
- Who are the stakeholders and how are they impacted?
- What are the legal issues?
- How do the legal concepts, processes and legal issues relate to determine legal outcomes?

COMMUNICATE
Produce an assessment response such as:
- essay
- research (independent inquiry)
- spoken or multimodal presentation.

EVALUATE/JUSTIFY
Assign merit according to criteria (just and equitable outcomes) / provide sound reasons or evidence to support a statement.
- Is the law just and equitable?
- Are the stakeholder responses just and equitable?
- What are the possible decisions or recommendations and how are they justified, using evidence and reasoning?

REFLECT
Re-examine the question, the research method and the outcomes considering these questions:
- Do new questions arise?
- Where to from here?
- What have I learnt that can inform future learning?
The solution may be to begin the inquiry again.

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